Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/788,611	WASHINGTON ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Steven S. Paik	2876	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *the Interview requested by the Applicant on 6/22/05*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *1,45-54,56-76 and 80-94*.

3. ☒ The drawings filed on *27 February 2004* are accepted by the Examiner.

4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
   a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .
      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
   (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
   (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

   Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date *7/10/05* .
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

STEVEN S. PAIK
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Daniel Wasil on June 22, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (previously amended) An apparatus including:

a cassette,

wherein the cassette is adapted for use in an automated banking machine,

wherein the cassette is operative to hold media therein,

wherein the cassette includes a biasing mechanism that is operative to move media in the cassette in a first direction,

wherein the cassette includes at least one indicator member,

wherein the at least one indicator member includes indicator data therewith regarding the cassette,

wherein the at least one indicator member comprises at least one radio frequency identification IRFDI tag,

wherein the at least one RFID tag includes identification

data representative of a cassette identification number,

wherein the identification data is adapted to be remotely read by a RFID tag reader of an automated banking machine.

2-44. (canceled)

45. (previously amended) The apparatus according to claim 66 wherein the cassette includes a biasing mechanism that is operative to move the currency in a first direction.

46. (previously amended) The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the cassette identification number pertains to a unique cassette identification number.

47. (previously amended) The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the indicator data includes data representative of cassette content information.

48. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 47 wherein the cassette content information pertains to at least one media characteristic.

49. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 48 wherein the media comprises currency, and wherein the cassette content information pertains to at least one currency characteristic.

50. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 49 wherein the at least one currency characteristic relates to currency nationality, currency denomination, currency length, currency height, currency thickness, currency code, amount of currency loaded in the cassette, time the cassette was loaded with currency, date the cassette was loaded with currency, identifying information pertaining to the currency loading entity, or any combination thereof.

51. (previously amended) The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the at least one RFID tag comprises a non-contact transponder.

52. (previously amended) The apparatus according to claim 80 wherein the cassette includes a biasing mechanism that is operative to move media in the cassette in a first direction.

53. (previously amended) The apparatus according to claim 1wherein the a RFD tag is embedded in the cassette.

54. (previously amended) The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the a RFID tag is removably attached to the cassette.

55. (currently cancelled)

56. (previously amended) The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the cassette identification number has a length of at least 32 bits.

57. (previously amended) The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the a RFID tag includes a programmable memory.

58. (previously amended) The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the apparatus further includes an automated banking machine.

59. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 58 wherein the automated banking machine comprises an ATM.

60. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 59 wherein the ATM includes the cassette therein.

61. (previously amended) The apparatus according to claim 60 wherein the ATM includes a RFD tag reader with circuitry operative to interrogate the a RFID tag to receive information about the cassette from the RFID tag.

62. (previously amended) The apparatus according to claim 61 wherein the RFID tag reader circuitry comprise a circuit card assembly.

63. (previously amended) The apparatus according to claim 61 wherein the RFID tag lacks a power source, and wherein the RFID tag reader is operative to receive information about the cassette via RF energy provided by the RFID tag reader.

64. (previously amended) The apparatus according to claim 61 wherein the RFID tag reader is operative to receive encrypted information about the cassette.

65. (previously amended) The apparatus according to claim 64 wherein the RFID tag reader comprises a decoder in decoding circuitry.

66. (previously presented) An apparatus including:

a cassette,

wherein the cassette includes currency,

wherein the cassette includes at least one radio frequency identification (RF1D) tag,

wherein the at least one tag includes data representative of a characteristic of the currency,

an automated banking machine,

wherein the automated banking machine comprises a dispenser feed channel,

wherein the dispenser feed channel includes a cassette reader,

wherein the reader is operative to remotely read the tag data.

67. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 66 wherein the reader is operative to read the tag data while the tag is in physically contactless relationship with the machine.

68. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 67 wherein the reader is spaced from the tag.

69. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 68 wherein the reader is operative to read the tag data via RF energy provided by the reader.

70. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 66 wherein the tag includes a programmable memory.

71 . (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 66 wherein the reader comprise a circuit card assembly.

72. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 66 wherein the apparatus further includes an automated banking machine network, wherein the network includes a plurality of automated banking machines, wherein each automated banking machine includes a plurality of currency cassettes.

73. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 72 wherein the network can track the amount of currency in an automated banking machine.

74. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 73 wherein the network can track the amount of currency in each automated banking machine in the network.

75. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 74 wherein the network can determine the amount of currency in the network.

76. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 75 wherein the network is operative to provide currency information in real time.

77-79. (currently cancelled)

80. (previously amended) An apparatus including:

an automated banking machine cassette,

wherein the cassette is operative to hold media therein,

wherein the cassette includes at least one cassette target,

an automated banking machine,

wherein the automated banking machine comprises a distance determining device,

wherein the distance determining device is operative to determine a distance between a cassette target and a component of the automated banking machine without the cassette target contacting the machine.

81. (previously amended) The apparatus according to claim 80 wherein the cassette includes at least one indicator member wherein the at least one indicator member is operative to provide information representative of cassette content.

82. (previously amended) The apparatus according to claim 81 wherein the cassette contains media therein, wherein the at least one indicator member is operative to provide information representative of a characteristic of the cassette media.

83. (previously amended) The apparatus according to claim 82 wherein an indicator member comprises a cassette target.

84. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 83 wherein the target is operative to provide information representative of a cassette position in a machine.

85. (previously amended) The apparatus according to claim 80 wherein the machine has the cassette therein.

86. (previously amended) The apparatus according to claim 80 wherein the automated banking machine is operative to determine a position of the cassette relative to the machine based on the determined distance.

87. (previously amended) The apparatus according to claim 80 wherein the determining device comprises a sensor, wherein the sensor is operative to measure the distance between the target and the sensor.

88. (previously amended) Apparatus including:

an automated banking machine.

wherein the automated banking machine includes a cassette,

wherein the cassette contains media therein,

wherein the cassette includes at least one indicator member,

wherein the at least one indicator member is operative to provide information representative of characteristic of the media,

wherein the information is operative to be remotely accessed by a disposed component of an automated banking machine,

wherein the at least one indicator member includes a target,

wherein the target is operative to provide information representative of a cassette position in a machine,

wherein the automated banking machine includes a distance determining device,

wherein the distance determining device includes a sensor,

wherein the sensor is operative to measure a distance between the target and the sensor,

wherein the sensor comprises an Eddy current type distance sensor.

89. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 87 wherein the automated banking machine comprises a dispenser feed channel, wherein the sensor is part of a sensor circuit associated with the dispenser feed channel.

90. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 83 wherein the target comprises a metal, and wherein the metal is attached to or embedded into the cassette.

91. (previously amended) Apparatus including:

an automated banking machine cassette,

wherein the cassette contains media therein,

wherein the cassette includes at least one indicator member,

wherein the at least one indicator member is operative to provide information representative of a characteristic of the media,

wherein the information is operative to be remotely accessed by a component of an automated banking machine,

wherein the at least one indicator member includes a target,

wherein the target includes a metal,

wherein the metal is attached to or embedded into the cassette,

wherein the target comprises Ferrite.

92. (previously amended) A method including:

(a) providing a media cassette in an automated banking machine, wherein the cassette includes at least one cassette target;

(b) measuring a distance between a cassette target and a component of the machine without the cassette target contacting the machine.

93. (previously amended) The method according to claim 92 wherein the machine includes a sensor, and wherein (b) includes remotely measuring the distance with the sensor.

94. (previously amended) The method according to claim 92 and further including

(c) determining the position of the cassette relative to the machine based on the distance measured in (b).

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1, 45-54, 56-76, and 80-94 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: none of the cited prior arts discloses, teaches, or fairly suggests an apparatus and a method comprising, among other things, a cassette for holding media that includes a biasing mechanism to move media within the cassette in a first direction, where the cassette includes at least one indicator/cassette target utilizing an Eddy current type distance sensor or Ferrite. The cited references also fail to disclose the indicator member comprising at least one radio frequency identification tag where the identification data is remotely read by a RFID tag reader of an automated banking machine.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven S. Paik whose telephone number is 571-272-2404. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri (5:30am-2:00pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Lee can be reached on 571-272-2398. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Steven S. Paik
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2876

ssp